26. Two-way fungibility has been permitted for ADRs/GDRs. Local shares can now be reconverted into ADRs/GDRs, subject to sectoral caps.

27. To induce more investment for R&D activities, a weighted deduction of 125% of the sums paid to any university, college or an institution or a Scientific research association of the purposes of scientific, social or statistical research has been provided.

28. A National Venture Fund for Software and IT Industry (NFSIT) has been set up with a corpus of Rs. 100 crores, out of which MIT shall contribute Rs. 30 crores.

29. For reduction of transaction time for export/import clearances, Ministry of Civil Aviation has finalized the scheme of 'Known-Shippers' for doing away with the 24 hours cooling off period. Two shifts have been introduced on week days and single shift on holidays at the Air Cargo Complexes at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Delhi and Goa.

30. STPI has set up a business support centre in the USA, which is operational since November 1999, to promote business for STP units and provide marketing support to STPs.

31. Information Technology Act 2000 has been enacted. This act deals with Cyber Security. Cyber Crime and other information security related legal aspects. This will encourage expansion of e-commerce through Internet.

New companies in basic telephone facilities

1169. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new companies functioning in the field of basic telephone facilities; and

(b) the number of connections provided under the private sector up to March 31, 2001, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAP AN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The details of companies functioning in the field of Basic Telephone Service and the number of connections provided under the private sector upto March 31, 2001 is as under:

Name of Company	Service Area	Number of connections provided upto 31.3.2001
Bharti Telenet Ltd.	Madhya Pradesh	115212
Hughes Telecom (India) Ltd.	Maharashtra	69599
Tata Teleservices Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh	58560
Reliance Telecom Ltd. Gujarat		160
Shyam Telelink Ltd. HFCL	Rajasthan	9119
Infotel Ltd.	Punjab	13326

Further licences have been granted in 2001-2002 to M/s Reliance Communications Ltd. for 17 service areas, M/s Bharti Telenet Ltd. in 4 service areas and M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd. in 4 service areas for operation of basic telephone service.

Blast of a Telephone Exchange In Warangal

1170. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether People's War Group militants blasted a telephone exchange in Mallampalli in Warangal District in January, 2002;

(b) if so, whether any estimate of the loss has been made;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) whether culprits have been identified and arrested?